THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI RADHIKA V. SELVI): (a) to (c) Three bomb blasts took place on 1st January 2009 in different parts of Guwahati City, resulting in death of 7 persons and injuries to 69 persons. In this connection. The State Government of Assam has provided *Ex-gratia* compensation of Rs.3 lakhs to each of the next kin of six persons died in the incident. Free medical treatment was provided to the persons injured in the incident.

State Government has reported that apart from gearing of intelligence machinery, the State Government has strengthened security and taken various measures to prevent such incidents which includes vigorous Naka checking, strong vigilance in the car parking areas, installation of Close Circuit TVs in important public places etc. Security situation in the State of Assam is being reviewed regularly. Central Government has provided additional Central Forces to assist the State Government in its Counter Insurgency Operations.

Anti-terror laws and police reforms to meet terrorism

290. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:
SHRI VIJAY JAWAHARLAL DARDA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Minister has pointed out that anti-terror laws and police reforms are essential to meet anti-terror in the country;

(b) if so, whether Union Ministry has also agreed that States amend anti-terror laws;

(c) whether Union Minister has sent letter to States on NIA bill;

(d) if so, the steps and measures Government has taken so far in collaboration with States to fight terrorist plans;

(e) whether experts have also pointed out that it is necessary to tackle terror first improve governance; and

(f) if so, to what extent new terror laws have helped Government to tackle terror menace in country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) The Government recognizes the need for a comprehensive policy and strategy for combating terrorism including, *inter-alia*, a strong legal framework, as well as Police reforms, and other measures for efficient and effective policing.

(c) The Home Minister has written to all the Chief Ministers detailing and explaining the scope, extent and application of the provisions of the National Investigation Agency Act, 2008.

(d) to (f) While the Central Government has taken a number of measures directly to strengthen the preparedness and response mechanisms to prevent and deal with terrorism, it has also consistently emphasized the need for the closest possible coordination in this regard

with the State Governments. Towards this end, apart from other measures, particular attention has been given to strengthening and streamlining of the mechanisms for real time flow and sharing of information and intelligence among the various agencies and the States, and coordination between the Central Agencies and the State authorities at the operational level. The Central Government is also assisting the States to strengthen their preparedness to deal with terrorist activities and other security challenges through a number of schemes which, *inter-alia*, include assistance for weaponry, equipments, infrastructure, training facilities, etc., under the Scheme of Modernisation of State Police Forces; sanction of India Reserve Battalions with additional assistance to raise 2 Coys per Bn. as Commando Units; reimbursement of certain types of security related expenditure to States affected by terrorist/militant/extremist violence, etc.

Recently, the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Amendment Act, 2008 has been enacted with a view to strengthening the legal framework for dealing with terrorist activities, including financing of terrorism and terrorist organisations, etc. The National Investigation Agency Act, 2008 has also been passed and the National Investigation Agency has been constituted to investigate certain types of offences relating to legislations included in the Schedule to the Act, which may have inter-State and international linkages and ramifications for national security. The NIA will operate in a concurrent jurisdiction framework and wherever it takes up a case for investigation, it would work in close association and collaboration with the State authorities concerned. It is expected that the recent legislative measures would help to further strengthen the overall security apparatus.

Rapid action units of NSG in States

291. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Centre has cleared a plan to urgently deploy rapid action units of National Security Guard in six or seven States including Mumbai until the State units are created;

(b) if so, whether Government proposes to utilize personnel of commandos units of the three armed forces in the States;

(c) whether Prime Minister has also emphasized need to step up security;

(d) if so, whether any strategy has been developed to tackle terrorism as India has paid heavy price for its inaction; and

(e) the extent Government is hopeful of meeting the situation of terrorism in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) the Government has decided in principle to set up NSG hubs in the Metropolitan